

going to drop it to 10 percent. You have no control over that.

So it is a question of do you want to choose among 50 cards, the way that President Bush and his big contributors in the drug industry, the insurance industry and the insurance discount card industry want, or would you rather have one Medicare card, where the government has negotiated a good discount? That is the way Canada does it, and that is why my constituents in northeast Ohio, why they drive to Canada. Canadian drugs are 30 percent, 40 percent, 50 percent cheaper, same drugs, same dosage, same manufacturer. So you got one card, or you got a choice of 50 cards.

Now, there is one other part of this bill, Mr. Speaker, that is really pretty incredible. As I mentioned, in this bill we give, taxpayers give, out of our pockets, reach into our pockets, \$46 billion direct subsidy from taxpayers to insurance companies.

Think about what we could do, instead of that \$46 billion going to the insurance industry, with their huge executive bonuses and stock options and marketing costs and all that, instead of \$46 billion going to the insurance industry, if that money went to Medicare beneficiaries for their drug costs, that would be almost \$1,200 for every one of the 39.5 million Medicare beneficiaries. So we are giving \$46 billion directly to the insurance industry instead of taking care of our seniors.

Again, the question is, why would this possibly happen? How could Congress be this stupid, how could Congress be this greedy, how could Congress be this out of touch, to choose this, over this? It has got a whole lot to do with how much campaign contributions George Bush has gotten and how much campaign contributions my friends on the other side of the aisle have gotten from the drug industry and the insurance industry.

REMARKS ABOUT IRAQ WAR BEING UNWINNABLE ARE APPALLING AND INEXCUSABLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I do take some exception, and I am here to speak on another subject, but as the author of the discount card, I find it very practical, very reasonable, and very meaningful for seniors in my district, the fifth largest Medicare-eligible population in America. We will get on that at another time.

Why I am here today is obviously having read the Roll Call this morning and seen the headlines, I am furious by the remarks that were attributed to one of my colleagues that said the war in Iraq is unwinnable. "Unwinnable" was the comment made.

What is more mind-boggling is the remarks are attributed to someone who has served this Nation as a veteran

during the Vietnam War conflict, and we respect him immensely for his service to this country.

There are some, though, in this process who have recently spoken in the national media comparing this conflict to Vietnam. I find the comparison absurd. It is also deliberately partisan rhetoric.

But if there is one lesson we should have learned from Vietnam that should carry over here in this Chamber today, it is that disparaging what our soldiers are doing in Iraq is tantamount to giving comfort to the terrorists and comfort to the enemy.

Saying this conflict is unwinnable will make no difference one way or the other to what we do in Iraq, but it has a devastating effect on American men and women who are in Iraq now doing what we in this Congress have asked them to do. Congress voted on a resolution to go into Iraq. We are there. We have sent more troops there to bring peace and democracy to Iraq. We are not risking our lives as Members of Congress; they are, as will the thousands of other Americans who may follow to bring liberty to Iraq.

Whether anyone here agrees or disagrees with the reasons we went to Iraq in the first place, the simple fact is that we are there now and we have to accomplish the goals that free Iraqis are asking of us.

We are fighting terrorism at its doorstep. If someone disagrees with that, so be it. But no one should ever forget that what they say has a direct impact on the men and women who are in Iraq at our behest.

To tell them they are over there risking their life and limb for something unwinnable is just unbelievable. On a very basic level, it is like a coach telling his team of Little Leaguers that they do not have a chance of winning the game, but go out there and play anyway. Let us waste some time.

I know that is a poor analogy, because we are not talking about Little League. This is the big league. This is life and death. This is America's finest young men and women serving this country.

For that reason alone, I find it stunning that anyone in this body could say something that will have absolutely no effect, other than to undercut the morale of our troops in Iraq and cheer on the terrorists.

I went to a funeral in my district of a young man who was killed in Iraq 2 weeks before he was to return home and marry his high school sweetheart. It was a very, very tearful day for everyone in the room.

When I approached his parents, I felt remorse, obviously, because I had voted to send their child to that place. They did not look at me with bitterness. They were proud of their son. They were proud he died doing what he wanted to do since he was a little boy, and that was defend the flag that flies over this building.

I did not sacrifice anything in Iraq, but these people did. They knew that

the cause that their son perished under was just and was noble and was right. For him and all the others who have perished in this conflict, these kinds of words of "unwinnable" are simply political rhetoric designed to influence the outcome of this next election.

But I urge all of my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans and citizens alike, while there are people in harm's way from this country in that nation and everywhere on the globe, we respect that, and let us not make their burden more difficult by giving the enemy even an inkling that they may be winning. That succeeded in Spain during this recent election by bombing a train and killing people.

Those that say that they were attacked simply because the Spanish were in Iraq have not looked at the entirety of what is happening. Jordanians are being attacked, if you will. There were plans to attack their intelligence service. Saudi Arabia was the target last week of a terrorist attack. These things are happening because of terrorists, not because of Iraq, but because they want to undo the way of life that we respect.

So I take umbrage with the comments that this is unwinnable, and I ask us all to join in salute for our strong, brave men and women in the field.

IRAQ WAR ACCOUNTABILITY AND LACK OF OVERSIGHT IN THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I listened to my colleague who previously spoke, and I really do not understand why he says what he says. There is no reason why any Member of this House of Representatives should not speak the truth. The Iraq war is unwinnable, it has been a total failure, and if we recognize that fact, then we will not continue to make the same mistakes.

Now, that is not to suggest that there is not an exit strategy or a way of leaving Iraq that will not accomplish some goals and that will not perhaps make the situation for the Iraqis better. But for us to sit around here and suggest that somehow the conduct of this war by the President or the Vice President or the Secretary of Defense is helping the cause is simply not true, and we have to speak out and say that.

Since the very beginning, with its refusal to truly internationalize the war, the Bush administration has shown nothing but arrogance towards anyone outside its inner-circle, whether that be Congress or the international community; and, unfortunately, the administration is now paying the price and our U.S. troops in Iraq are paying with their lives.

There seems to be a sense from Republicans here in Congress that anyone who questions the actions of the Bush